

ABSTRACT

A method of producing a methacrylic acid ester which comprises carrying out an ester-exchange reaction between methyl methacrylate and an alcohol or a phenol while removing by-product methanol as an azeotropic mixture with methyl methacrylate from the reaction system under reflux conditions, by the use of a reaction apparatus equipped with a distillation column. A methacrylic acid ester is produced with a good productivity by controlling the reflux ratio.